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AUTHOR Belcher, Marcia J.
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ABSTRACT

Cutscores for certifying competence on the College Level Academic Skills Test (CLAST) have been raised three times since the test was implemented in 1982. In 1989, a study was conducted at Miami-Dade Community College (MDCC) to challenge the contention that a vast majority of students taking the CLAST under the largest and most recent jump in cutscores would pass within a year. The study also investigated the effect that increased time limits for retaking the CLAST would have on passing rates. Associate-degree seeking students who took the CLAST for the first time at MDCC in fall 1987 (N=1,089) or fall 1988 (N=2,617) were selected for the study. While 72% of the 1987 group had completed the required mathematics and English curriculum, only 41% of the 1988 group had finished the curriculum. The students' CLAST scores were analyzed in terms of three sets of cutscores: the standards that were implemented in 1986 and remained in effect through 1988; compromise standards that were imposed in 1989; and standards that will be imposed in 1990. Study findings included the following: (1) 72% of the 1987 students passed the CLAST the first time, compared to only 60% of the 1988 group; (2) after 1 year, 84% of the 1987 group and 74% of the 1988 group had passed the test; (3) considering only students who had completed the required curriculum, first-time passing rates were 86% for the 1987 group and 91% for the 1988 group; (4) of those who retook the test, 58% of the 1987 group and 78% of the 1988 group passed, indicating that increasing time limits did help the pass rate; and (5) under 1989 standards, the pass rate for the 1988 group would have dropped from 60% to 35%, while under the 1990 standards only 19% of the students would have passed. Based on study findings, it was concluded that, under the 1990 cutscores, between 30% and 75% of the students would pass all four parts of the CLAST, and that allowing a second year to pass all four parts would only slightly improve the passing rate. Four figures and 20 tables supplement the text. (VVC)

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CLAST PASSING RATES AFTER ONE YEAR UNDER THE NEW CUTSCORES AND EXTENDED TIMING FOR RETAKES

Research Report No. 89-18R

August 1989

Marcia J. Belcher

Research Associate, Sr.

MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY COLLEGE

OFFICE OF INSTITUTIONAL RESEARCH

John Losak, Dean

JC 890 468

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CLAST Passing Rates After One Year Under the New
Cutscores and Extended Timing for Retakes

Measuring student competence involves more than simply deciding what students should know. With the implementation of the College Level Academic Skills Test in 1982 also came the need to set cutscores for certifying competence. This process involved asking institutions from around the state to review the test and recommend what they thought the percentage of items passed should be. A statewide committee then reviewed the recommendations and made a final set of recommendations which were put into legislation. Because the competence levels originally set would have resulted in too many students failing, the cutscores used to certify competence were put into place in stages. The first set became effective in August, 1984. The second set became effective in August, 1986.

The largest and final jump in cutscores was set to occur in August, 1989. Many community colleges, led by Miami-Dade, attempted to halt the implementation of this final increase. But whatever the colleges argued--loss of talent, disproportionate impact on minorities, research showing ability to succeed in upper division without meeting the 1989 cutscores--the CLASP office responded that 90 to 95 percent of students pass within a year so there is little to worry about. State officials also point to the fact that time allotments for retesting have been doubled, further improving the probability of retakers passing the test.

The purpose of this study was to test the contention that a vast majority of students taking CLAST under the increased cutscores will pass within a year and to study the effect that increased time limits for retakers have had on passing rates. Specifically, the study sought answers to the following questions based on performance of Miami-Dade students:

1. Compared to the prior year when extended time limits were not in effect, has retake performance improved?

2. What percent of students will pass under the raised cutscores after one year assuming an "ideal" situation where, even though first-time performance

is depressed, students will retake and pass the CLAST at 1986 rates?

3. What percent of students will pass under the raised cutscores after one year assuming the "worst" situation where first-time performance is depressed and retake performance for all retakers is the same as that for those students failing under the 1986 standards?

4. How much more do passing rates increase with a second year of follow-up?

5. What have been and will be the effects for the major ethnic groups?

Since the ultimate criterion as far as student matriculation is concerned is whether students can pass all four of the CLAST subtests, this study will concentrate on the pass-all-four rate rather than on passage of the individual subtests.

Methodology

Students who took the CLAST for the first time at Miami-Dade Community College in the Fall of 1988 and were A.A. degree-seekers were selected for this study. This group could take the test at any time they wished during their college career and could retake the test under extended time limits. They were followed for the two additional test administrations that comprise the 1988-89 testing year to determine the number who retested and eventually passed the CLAST.

The Fall 1988 students were compared to students who first took the CLAST in the Fall of 1987 and were followed for two additional terms in 1987-88. The Fall 1987 group fell under the previous administration rules where students were supposed to be ready to graduate in order to take the test. Any retakes of the CLAST were under the same time restrictions as the original testing.

Follow-up was based on test scores sent to Miami-Dade. For this study, the statewide CLAST database was not utilized to see if students took their test anywhere besides Miami-Dade or failed to have their score reports sent to the College. The rationale was that within the scope of the

academic year, few students would move and test elsewhere. In addition, previous research (Einspruch, 1988) had found that passing rates improved by only two percentage points (from 88.7% to 90.8%) after three additional administrations for Fall 1986 test takers when the state database was included. We assume, therefore, that inclusion of the state database for CLAST would improve results by only one or two percentage points for two additional administrations.

Besides year of testing, students were further subdivided based on whether they had completed the College's required curricula in English and Mathematics. In order to be counted as having completed the curricula, students had to have earned a grade of "C" or better in three English courses (ENC 1101, ENC 1102, and ENC 2301) and one Mathematics course (MGF 1113). Checks ensured that students had completed the courses either prior to or during the semester of their first testing.

Several sets of cutscores were used for the calculations. In August of 1989, the State Board of Education accepted an alternate to the imposition of the full 1989 cutscores. Instead, the Reading and English Language Skills Tests will move to the original 1989 levels of 295, while the essay will remain at the 1986 level for one more year, and the Mathematics cutscore will rise by ten points instead of twenty for an additional year. The original 1989 cutscores will therefore become fully operational in August, 1990. Students taking the CLAST in the Fall of 1987 or 1988 were subject to the 1986 cutscores.

To summarize, the cutscores used for this study were:

Year	Reading	Writing	Mathematics	Essay
1986	270	270	275	4
1989	295	295	285	4
1990	295	295	295	5

Results

A total of 1,089 students took the CLAST in the Fall of 1987 compared to 2,617 in 1988. For the Fall 1987 group, 72% or 789 students had completed the required curriculum. Only 41% or 1067 students had completed the curriculum at the time of the Fall 1988 testing. Therefore, virtually the entire increase in test-takers from 1987 to 1988 was comprised of students who had not completed the curriculum.

Differences in 1987 and 1988 Passing Rates

Not surprisingly, passing rates differed for the two groups when all first-time test takers were studied. A total of 72% of the 1987 test takers passed the first time compared to 60% of the 1988 group. After one year, the 1987 pass rate improved by 12 percentage points to 84%. The 1988 pass rate improved 14 percentage points to 74% (See Table 1). These results indicate no dramatic difference in passing rates between students who had increased time (1988) and students who did not (1987).

However, since the groups were so different in their preparations for the test, perhaps comparing only students who had completed the required curriculum would be more equitable. In fact, the initial passing rates for the two groups were more similar --74% for the 1987 group and 72% for the 1988 group. After one year, the passing rate for the 1987 group had improved to 86% and the 1988 group had improved to 91%--an improvement of 12 percentage points for 1987 compared to 19 percentage points for 1988.

Looking at the pass rate of only those who retook the test (instead of all who were eligible) shows an even more substantial difference. Only 58% of the 1987 retakers passed compared to 78% of the 1988 group. It seems clear that increasing the time limits did help students improve their pass-all-four rate on the test if they had the curriculum. In fact, under the new time limits we could expect a third more students to pass than was previously the case.

The main beneficiaries of the increased time limits were minority students (see Table 2). Black students completing the curriculum had 57% of

retakes passing in 1987 compared to 67% in 1988. Hispanics had 61% passing in 1987 compared to 79% in 1988.

On which subtests did students show the greatest gain? As shown by Table 3, all areas showed gains. By far, however, the greatest gains were on the Essay where the percentage improvement was greater than 30% for 1988 compared to 1987.

Effects of Raised Cutscores on One Year Passing Rates

The effects that raised cutscores will have on first time passing rates of students have been documented numerous times. For all Fall 1988 first-time test takers, the pass-all-four rate drops from 60% under the current cutscores to 35% under the modified scores and on to 19% when the original 1989 cutscores go into effect in 1990. For students completing the Mathematics and English curriculum, the drop is from 72% to 44% and on down to 26% in 1990.

Besides first-time passing rates, a previous study by Losak and Einspruch (1989) documented the extent that passing rates will fall even after one year under increased cutscores. This study, however, was completed prior to the availability of information on the effects of extended timing. In addition, figures were based only on those students who were eligible to retake the test, i.e., only those who failed it originally and then retook it. This scenario did not account for the performance of students who had high enough scores under 1986 cutscores to not require retesting but would still need to retest under higher cutscores. This approach to estimating performance could be termed a "worst case" scenario since it assumes that all students would need score gains equivalent to those who failed under 1986 cutscores.

Alternately, an "ideal case" scenario would be based on the assumption that students will retake and pass the CLAST subtests at the same rate under the new cutscores as they did under the 1986 cutscores. This assumption is unlikely to be met since students already failing under the 1986 cutscores will have even greater difficulty under the higher cutscores and therefore have a lower passing rate upon retaking. Meeting the

increased cutscores also may be more difficult for students passing under the 1986 cutscores than it is for students who failed and therefore needed to retest to meet the 1986 cutscores since the jump in cutscores is higher.

Assuming similar retake and pass rates and knowing the additional number of students who will fail under the 1989 and 1990 cutscores, we can calculate how students would perform on retakes under the increased cutscores by multiplying the number of students failing under the increased cutscores by the proportion of retakes passing under the 1986 cutscores for the "ideal case" and by the proportion of 1988 retakes passing under the 1989 and 1990 cutscores for the "worst case". This is exactly how the numbers were derived in Appendices A and D, and Tables 4 and 5.

In addition to deriving "ideal" and "worst" cases, results change based on whether all first time test takers are included or only students who have completed the Mathematics and English curriculum. Table 4 displays the results for all Fall 1988 first-time test takers while Table 5 is based on students completing the English and Mathematics curriculum.

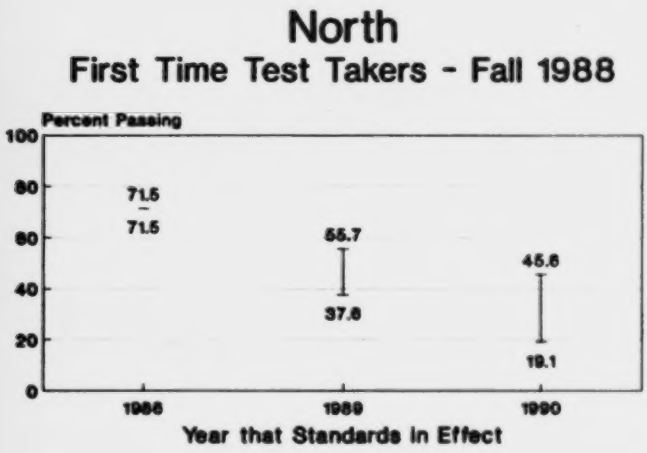
Note that for all test takers, the most that we can expect is that the one-year passing rate will change from 74% to 57% to 47% under the full cutscores. The worst we can expect is that 40% will pass all four subtests next year and 22% will pass all four the following year.

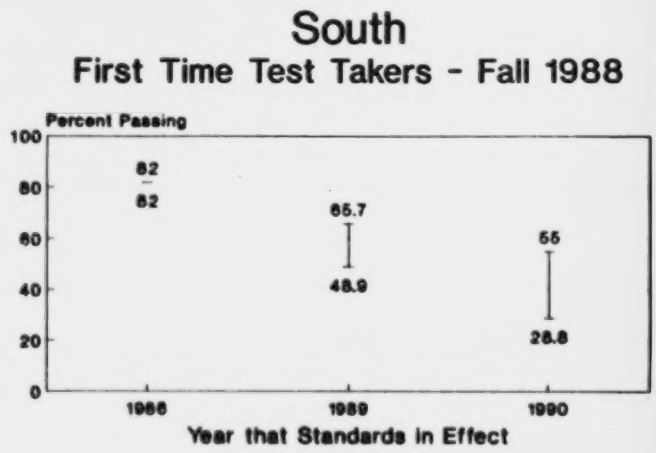
The results are not as severe for students completing the curriculum. At best, however, we can expect that 81% of a similar group will pass under the modified 1989 cutscores and 75% will pass when the full cutscores are imposed. At worst, only slightly more than half of these curriculum prepared to meet the 1989 cutscores will actually pass next year and only a third the following year.

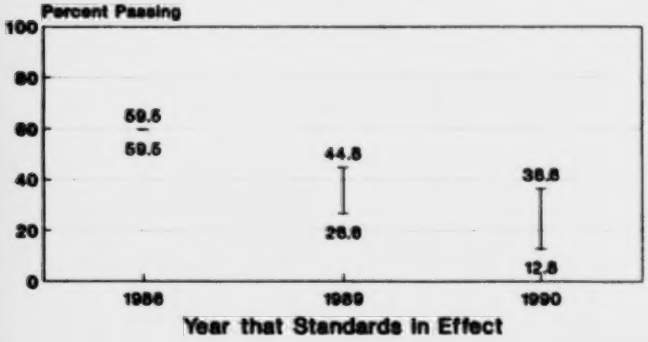
Table 6 displays similar results by campus while Figures 1 and 2 produce the same results graphically, showing the range that we can expect the results to fall in. Under 1986 cutscores, North and South have one-year passing rates of about 93% while Wolfson's is 80% for students who have completed the English and Mathematics curriculum. Next year, the ideal

Figure 1

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing All Four Parts of CLAST After One Year Under Raised Cutscores by Campus and for All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers







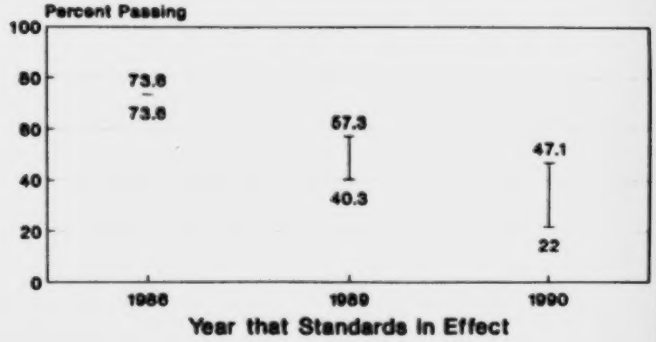
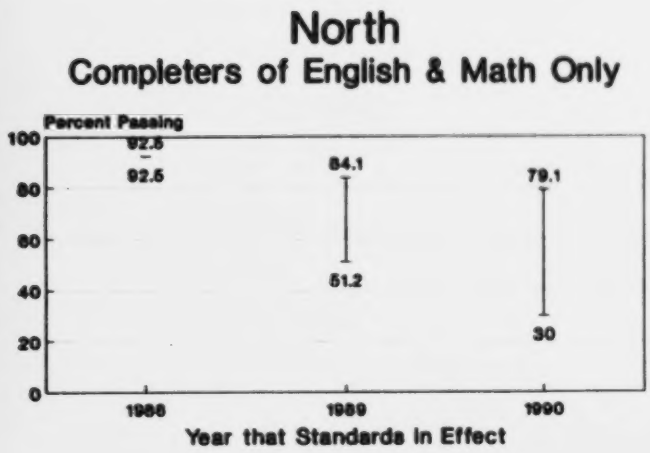
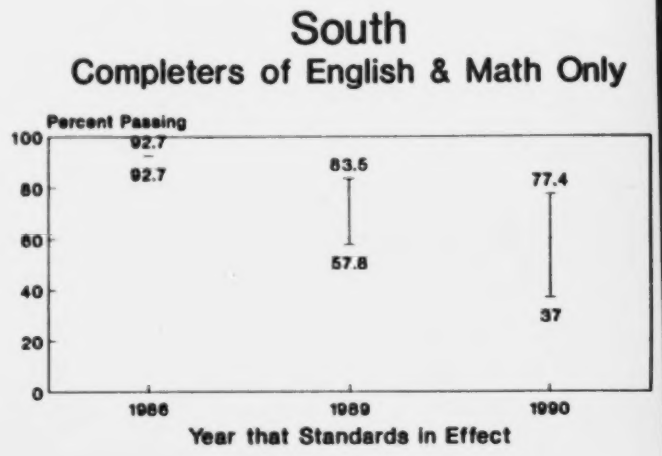
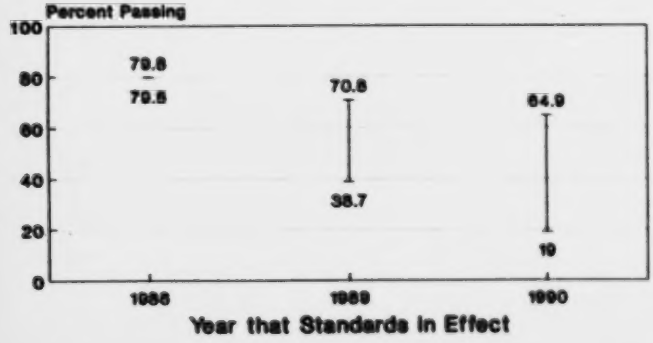


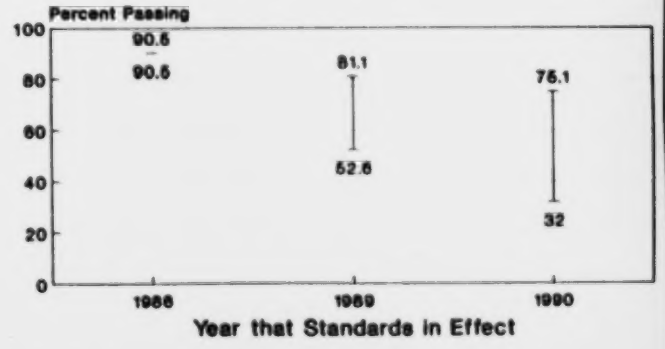
Figure 2

Ideal and Worst Estimates of Percent Passing All Four Parts of CLAST After One Year Under Raised Cutscores by Campus and for Completers of English and Mathematics









situation at North and South will be passing rates of 84% for completers while at Wolfson it will be 71%; at worst South's rate may drop to less than 60%, North's to about 50% and Wolfson's to less than 40%. For all first-time test takers, the percent passing under the full 1990 cutscores will range from about 20% to 45% for North, 30% to 55% for South, and 15% to 35% for Wolfson. The modified cutscores produce results that are about 10 percentage points higher. For further details on the calculations used to produce Table 6, use Appendices A and B.

As noted in the past, the increased cutscores have a strong impact on every ethnic group, but especially on black non-Hispanics and Hispanics. The current one-year passing rates of 85% for black non-Hispanics, 90% for Hispanics, and 95% for white non-Hispanics will fall next year to the range of 41-72% for blacks, 70-88% for whites, and 48-81% for Hispanics who have completed the curriculum. By the time of the imposition of the full 1990 cutscores, the best that we can expect is that 68% of blacks, 82% of whites, and 76% of Hispanics who have completed the curriculum will have passed all four parts after one year. See Table 7 for full results and Figures 3 and 4 for a visual presentation. Details can be found on Appendices C and D.

Perhaps additional administrations of the test would increase the passing rate. If 1988 students respond similarly as 1987 students, however, adding another year would not increase passing rates very much. As shown by Table 8, passing rates moved from 72% following the first administration to 84% after one year to 88% after two years for Fall 1987 test takers.

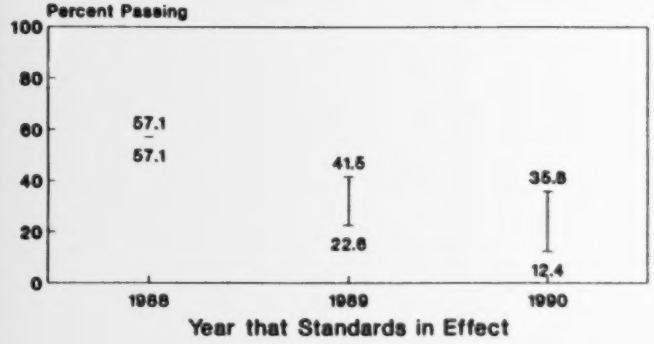
Conclusions

Results indicate that those pushing for higher cutscores were right about one thing and wrong about another. They were right in saying that allowing additional time when students retake the test improves performance. For students who have completed the required Mathematics and English curriculum, the percentage of students retaking the test who passed all parts rose from 58% to 78% between 1987 and 1988. The major beneficiaries of the increased time limits were minority students. By subtest, students retaking the essay showed the greatest gains.

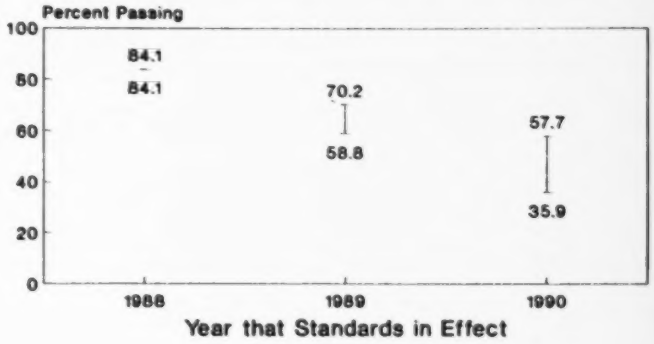
Figure 3

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing CLAST After One Year Under Raised Cutscores by Ethnic Group and for All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

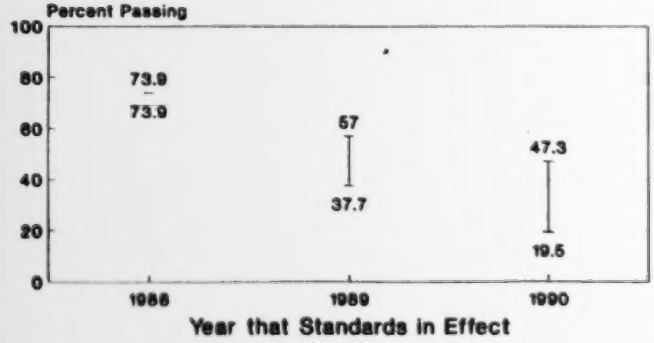
Black Non-Hispanic Students
First Time Test Takers - Fall 1988



White Non-Hispanic Students
First Time Test Takers - Fall 1988



Hispanic Students
First Time Test Takers - Fall 1988



Total Group
First Time Test Takers - Fall 1988

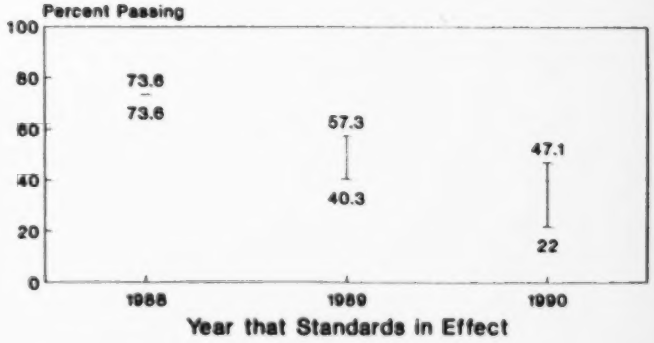
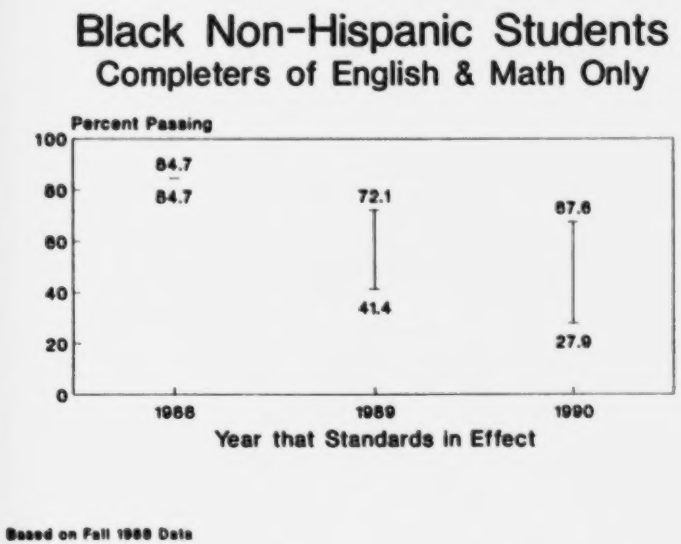
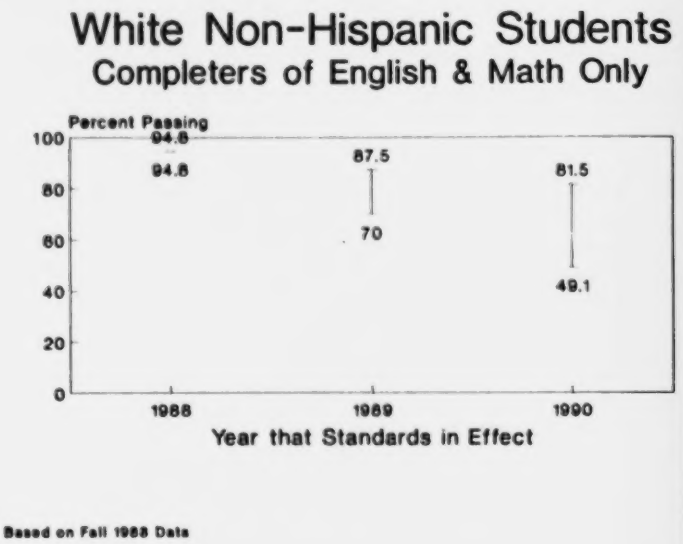
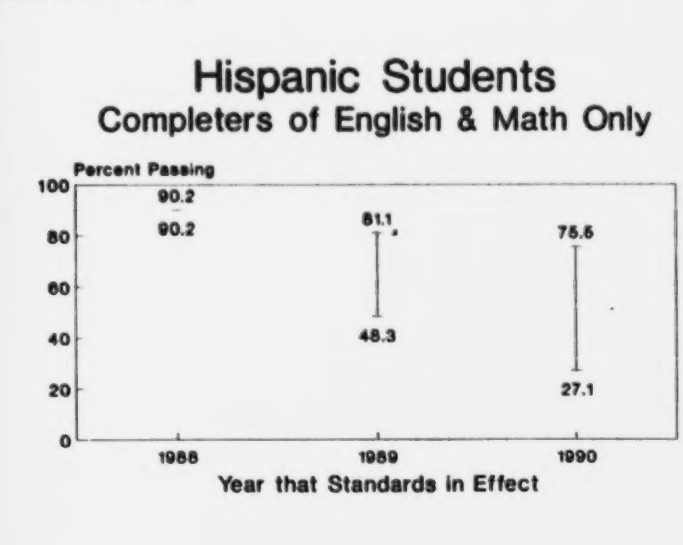


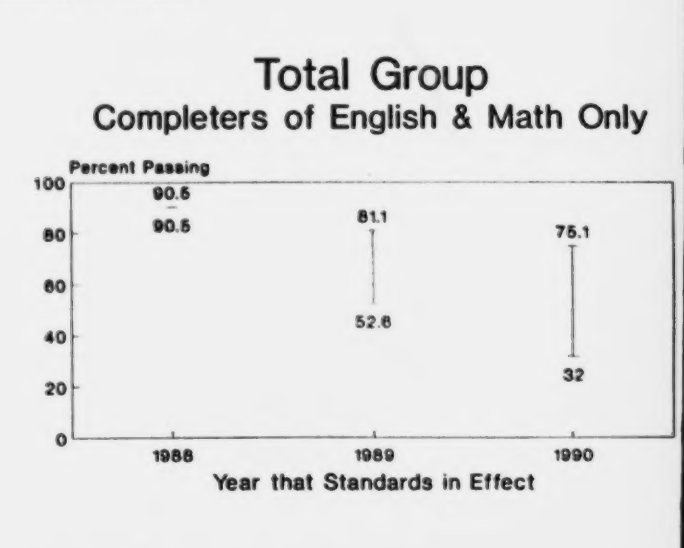
Figure 4

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing CLAST After One Year Under Raised Cutscores by Ethnic Group and for Completers of English and Mathematics









Those pushing for higher scores were wrong in saying that 90% to 95% of students eventually pass the CLAST. For M-DCC's most prepared students (those completing the English and Mathematics curriculum prior to testing), the one-year pass rate under 1986 cutscores is 90%. Next year, we can expect that between 50% and 80% will pass all four parts after three administrations. The following year the best we can expect is that 75% will pass all four parts; at worst, slightly more than 30% will pass. Passing rates are considerably lower for all first-time test takers, ranging from 10 to 30 points depending on the estimate. Allowing a second year to pass all four parts improved the passing rate only slightly for all 1987 test-takers.

What is important to remember is that passing rates are going down again. Under the full 1990 cutscores the best that we can expect for students who already completed the curriculum is that after trying for one year, still only 75% of them will have passed all four parts of the CLAST compared to 90% now. At worst, low passing rates may result in retaining two-thirds of our already prepared students because of lack on progress on CLAST. These results will most assuredly have an impact on the institution as well as on the individual students trying to reach upper division.

Table 1

A Comparison of Fall 1987 and Fall 1988 Test Takers' CLAST Status After Three Test Administrations Based on 1986 Cutscores

	Fall 1987		Fall 1988	
	Number	Percent of Total	Number	Percent of Total
All First-Time Test-Takers				
Passed First Try	782	71.8	1,563	59.7
Passed After Retaking	137	12.6	364	13.9
Retook But Failed	89	8.2	251	9.6
Never Retook	81	7.4	439	16.8
Total	1,089	100.0	2,617	100.0
Passed After One Year	919	84.4	1,927	73.6
Students Completing the Required Curriculum*				
Passed First Try	587	74.4	767	71.9
Passed After Retaking	94	11.9	199	18.7
Retook But Failed	67	8.5	57	5.3
Never Retook	41	5.2	44	4.1
Total	789	100.0	1,067	100.0
Passed After One Year	681	86.3	966	90.5

*Includes only students who completed ENC 1101, ENC 1102, ENC 2301, and MGF 1113 with a grade of "C" or better.

Note: Based on data gathered from three successive administrations that make up the academic testing year.

Table 2

A Comparison of Fall 1987 and Fall 1988 Test Takers' CLAST Status After Three Test Administrations Based on 1986 Cutscores by Ethnic Group

	Ethnic Group											
	Black Non-Hispanic				White Non-Hispanic				Hispanic			
	Fall 1987		Fall 1988		Fall 1987		Fall 1988		Fall 1987		Fall 1988	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
All First-Time Test-Takers												
Passed First Try	56	48.3	152	41.0	290	86.1	497	73.4	418	69.4	881	58.8
Passed After Retaking	23	19.8	60	16.2	24	7.1	70	10.4	84	14.0	226	15.1
Retook But Failed	20	17.2	71	19.1	11	3.3	19	2.8	52	8.6	144	9.6
Never Retook	17	14.7	88	23.7	12	3.6	88	13.1	48	8.0	247	16.5
Total	116	100.0	371	100.0	337	100.0	674	100.0	602	100.0	1,498	100.0
Passed After One Year	79	68.1	212	57.1	314	93.2	567	84.1	502	83.4	1,107	73.9
Students Completing the Required Curriculum*												
Passed First Try	38	50.0	72	64.9	210	89.0	236	82.2	326	72.3	444	68.9
Passed After Retaking	17	22.4	22	19.8	11	4.7	36	12.5	61	13.5	137	21.3
Retook But Failed	13	17.1	11	9.9	10	4.2	6	2.1	39	8.7	36	5.6
Never Retook	8	10.5	6	5.4	5	2.1	9	3.1	25	5.5	27	4.2
Total	76	100.0	111	100.0	236	100.0	287	100.0	451	100.0	644	100.0
Passed After One Year	55	72.4	94	84.7	211	93.6	272	94.8	387	85.8	581	90.2

*Include only students who completed ENC 1101, ENC 1102, ENC 2301, and MGF 1113 with a grade of "C" of better.

Table 3

Comparison of Percentage of Students Passing Upon Retake for Fall 1987 and Fall 1988 by Subtest

	Fall 1987		Fall 1988		
Subtest	Number Tested	Percent Passing	Number Tested	Percent Passing	Percent of Improvement for 1988
Reading	67	73.1	71	88.7	21
English Language Skills	45	80.0	73	90.4	13
Mathematics	31	71.0	125	83.2	17
Essay	105	53.3	120	70.0	31
All Four	161	58.4	256	77.7	33

Note: Includes only students who had completed required English and Mathematics courses at time of first testing.

Table 4

Estimates of One-Year CLAST Passing Rates
Under Increased Cutscores Based on
All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

Ideal Case

	1986 Cutscores		Modified 1989 Cutscores		1990 Cutscores	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	2,617	100.0	2,617	100.0	2,617	100.0
Passed First Try	1,563	59.7	912	34.8	502	19.2
Passed After Retake*	364	13.9	588	22.5	730	27.9
Total Passed After Three Administrations	1,927	73.6	1,500	57.3	1,232	47.1

*Based on the assumption that 34.5% of eligible retakers will pass--the same percentage as under 1986 cutscores.

Worst Case

	1986 Cutscores		Modified 1989 Cutscores		1990 Cutscores	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	2,617	100.0	2,617	100.0	2,617	100.0
Passed First Try	1,563	59.7	912	34.8	502	19.2
Passed After Retake*	364	13.9	140	5.5	74	2.8
Total Passed After Three Administrations	1,927	73.6	1,055	40.3	576	22.0

*Based on the assumption that 8.4% of failers will pass within one year based on modified 1989 cutscores and that 3.5% will under full 1990 cutscores--the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting the new cutscores.

Table 5

Estimates of One-Year CLAST Passing Rates
Under Increased Cutscores Based on
All Fall 1988 Test Takers Completing English and Mathematics

Ideal Case

	1986 Cutscores		Modified 1989 Cutscores		1990 Cutscores	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	1,067	100.0	1,067	100.0	1,067	100.0
Passed First Try	767	71.9	470	44.0	278	26.1
Passed After Retake*	199	18.7	396	37.1	523	49.0
Total Passed After Three Administrations	966	90.5	866	81.1	801	75.1

*Based on the assumption that 66.3% of eligible retakers will pass--the same percentage as under 1986 cutscores.

Worst Case

	1986 Cutscores		Modified 1989 Cutscores		1990 Cutscores	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	1,067	100.0	1,067	100.0	1,067	100.0
Passed First	767	71.9	470	44.0	278	26.1
Passed After Retake*	199	18.7	91	8.5	63	5.9
Total Passed After Three Administrations	966	90.5	561	52.6	341	32.0

*Based on the assumption that 15.3% of eligible retakers will pass under modified 1989 cutscores and 8.0% will pass under 1990 cutscores--the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting the new cutscores.

Table 6

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of
Percent Passing All Four Parts of CLAST
After One Year Under Raised Cutscores
by Campus

All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

	1986		1989		1990	
Campus	Ideal	Worst	Ideal	Worst	Ideal	Worst
North	71.5	71.5	55.7	37.6	45.6	19.1
South	82.0	82.0	65.7	48.9	55.0	28.8
Wolfson	59.5	59.5	44.8	26.6	36.6	12.8
Total	73.6	73.6	57.3	40.3	47.1	22.0

Only Students Completing
Required Mathematics and English Courses

	1986		1989		1990	
Campus	Ideal	Worst	Ideal	Worst	Ideal	Worst
North	92.5	92.5	84.1	51.2	79.1	30.0
South	92.7	92.7	83.5	57.8	77.4	37.0
Wolfson	79.8	79.8	70.8	38.7	64.9	19.0
Total	90.5	90.5	81.1	52.6	75.1	32.0

Table 7

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of
Percent Passing CLAST After One Year
Under Raised Cutscores
by Ethnic Group

All First-Time Test Takers

	1986		1989		1990	
Ethnic Group	Ideal	Worst	Ideal	Worst	Ideal	Worst
Black Non-Hispanic	57.1	57.1	41.5	22.6	35.8	12.4
White Non-Hispanic	84.1	84.1	70.2	58.8	57.7	35.9
Hispanic	73.9	73.9	57.0	37.7	47.3	19.5
Total	73.6	73.6	57.3	40.3	47.1	22.0

Only Students Completing
Required Mathematics and English Courses

	1986		1989		1990	
Ethnic Group	Ideal	Worst	Ideal	Worst	Ideal	Worst
Black Non-Hispanic	84.7	84.7	72.1	41.4	67.6	27.9
White Non-Hispanic	94.8	94.8	87.5	70.0	81.5	49.1
Hispanic	90.2	90.2	81.1	48.3	75.5	27.1
Total	90.5	90.5	81.1	52.6	75.1	32.0

Table 8

Passing Rates After One and Two Years
For All Fall 1987 First-Time Test Takers

	After One Year		After Two Years	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Passed First Try	782	71.8	782	71.8
Passed After Retaking	137	12.6	180	16.5
Retook But Failed	89	8.2	70	6.4
Never Retook	81	7.4	57	5.2
Total	1,089	100.0	1,089	100.0
Final Passing Rate	919	84.4	962	88.3

APPENDIX A

Estimates of CLAST Passing Rates

by Campus

For All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

Table 9

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST
Under Raised Cutscores

All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

NORTH CAMPUS

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	787	100.0	787	100.0	787	100.0
Passed First Try	442	56.2	249	31.6	127	16.1
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	121	15.4	189	24.0	232	29.5
Worst Case**	121	15.4	47	6.0	23	2.9
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal Case*	563	71.5	438	55.7	359	45.6
Worst Case**	563	71.5	296	37.6	150	19.1

*Assumes that 35.1% of eligible retakers will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 8.7% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 3.5% well under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

Table 10

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST
Under Raised Cutscores

All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

SOUTH CAMPUS

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	1,230	100.0	1,230	100.0	1,230	100.0
Passed First Try	862	70.1	527	42.8	309	25.1
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	147	12.0	281	22.8	368	29.9
Worst Case**	147	12.0	75	6.1	45	3.7
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal Case*	1,009	82.0	808	65.7	677	55.0
Worst Case**	1,009	82.0	602	48.9	354	28.8

*Assumes that 40.0% of eligible retakes will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 10.6% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 4.9% well under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

Table 11

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST
Under Raised Cutscores

All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

WOLFSON CAMPUS

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	563	100.0	563	100.0	563	100.0
Passed First Try	243	43.2	126	22.4	62	11.0
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	92	16.3	126	22.4	144	25.6
Worst Case**	92	16.3	24	4.3	10	1.8
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal Case*	335	59.5	252	44.8	206	36.6
Worst Case**	335	59.5	150	26.6	72	12.8

*Assumes that 28.8% of eligible retakers will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 5.6% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 1.9% well under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

APPENDIX B

Estimates of CLAST Passing Rates

by Campus

For All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

Completing English and Mathematics

Table 12

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST After One Year
Under Raised Cutscores

Only Students Who Completed Required English and Mathematics

NORTH CAMPUS

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	320	100.0	320	100.0	320	100.0
Passed First Try	229	71.6	125	39.1	65	20.3
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	67	20.9	144	45.0	188	58.8
Worst Case**	67	20.9	39	12.2	31	9.7
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal Case*	296	92.5	269	84.1	253	79.1
Worst Case**	296	92.5	164	51.2	96	30.0

*Assumes that 73.6% of eligible retakers will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 19.8% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 12.1% well under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

Table 13

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST After One Year
Under Raised Cutscores

Only Students Who Completed Required English and Mathematics

SOUTH CAMPUS

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	576	100.0	576	100.0	576	100.0
Passed First Try	450	78.1	292	50.7	185	32.1
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	84	14.6	189	32.8	261	45.3
Worst Case**	84	14.6	41	7.1	28	4.9
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal Case*	534	92.7	481	83.5	446	77.4
Worst Case**	534	92.7	333	57.8	213	37.0

*Assumes that 66.7% of eligible retakers will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 14.3% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 7.1% well under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

Table 14

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST After One Year
Under Raised Cutscores

Only Students Who Completed Required English and Mathematics

WOLFSON CAMPUS

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	168	100.0	168	100.0	168	100.0
Passed First Try	87	51.8	52	31.0	27	16.6
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	47	28.0	67	40.0	82	48.8
Worst Case**	47	28.0	13	7.7	5	3.0
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal Case*	134	79.8	119	70.8	109	64.9
Worst Case**	134	79.8	65	38.7	32	19.0

*Assumes that 58.0% of eligible retakers will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 11.1% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 3.7% well under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

APPENDIX C

Estimates of CLAST Passing Rates

by Ethnicity

For All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

Table 15

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST
Under Raised Cutscores

All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

BLACK NON-HISPANIC

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	371	100.0	371	100.0	371	100.0
Passed First Try	152	41.0	72	19.4	43	11.6
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	60	16.2	82	22.1	90	24.3
Worst Case**	60	16.2	12	3.2	3	0.8
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal Case*	212	57.1	154	41.5	133	35.8
Worst Case**	212	57.1	84	22.6	46	12.4

*Assumes that 27.4% of eligible retakers will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 4.1% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 0.9% well under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

Table 16

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST
Under Raised Cutscores

All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

WHITE NON-HISPANIC

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	674	100.0	674	100.0	674	100.0
Passed First Try	497	73.7	341	50.6	202	30.0
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	70	10.4	132	19.6	187	27.7
Worst Case**	70	10.4	55	8.2	40	5.9
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal +Case*	567	84.1	473	70.2	389	57.7
Worst Case**	567	84.1	396	58.8	242	35.9

*Assumes that 39.6% of eligible retakers will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 16.4% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 8.5% well under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

Table 17

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST
Under Raised Cutscores

All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

HISPANIC

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	1,498	100.0	1,498	100.0	1,498	100.0
Passed First Try	881	58.8	483	32.2	252	16.8
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	226	15.1	371	24.8	456	30.4
Worst Case**	226	15.1	82	5.5	40	2.7
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal Case*	1,107	73.9	854	57.0	708	47.3
Worst Case**	1,107	73.9	565	37.7	292	19.5

*Assumes that 36.6% of eligible retakers will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 8.1% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 3.2% well under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

APPENDIX D

Estimates of CLAST Passing Rates

by Ethnicity

For All Fall 1988 First-Time Test Takers

Completing English and Mathematics

Table 18

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST After One Year
Under Raised Cutscores

Only Students Who Completed Required English and Mathematics

BLACK NON-HISPANIC

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	111	100.0	111	100.0	111	100.0
Passed First Try	72	64.9	41	36.9	29	26.1
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	22	19.8	39	35.1	46	41.4
Worst Case**	22	19.8	5	4.5	2	1.8
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal Case*	94	84.7	80	72.1	75	67.6
Worst Case**	94	84.7	46	41.4	31	27.9

*Assumes that 56.4% of eligible retakers will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 7.7% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 2.6% well under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

Table 19

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST After One Year
Under Raised Cutscores

Only Students Who Completed Required English and Mathematics

WHITE NON-HISPANIC

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	287	100.0	287	100.0	287	100.0
Passed First Try	236	82.2	165	57.5	106	36.9
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	36	12.5	86	30.0	128	44.6
Worst Case**	36	12.5	36	12.5	35	12.2
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal Case*	272	94.8	251	87.5	234	81.5
Worst Case**	272	94.8	201	70.0	141	49.1

*Assumes that 70.6% of eligible retakers will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 29.4% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 19.6% well under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

Table 20

Ideal and Worst Case Estimates of Percent Passing
All Parts of CLAST after one year
Under Raised Cutscores

Only Students Who Completed Required English and Mathematics

HISPANIC

	1986		1989		1990	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Tested	644	100.0	644	100.0	644	100.0
Passed First Try	444	68.9	257	39.9	142	22.0
Passed After Retake						
Ideal Case*	137	21.3	265	41.1	344	53.4
Worst Case**	137	21.3	54	8.4	33	5.1
Total Passed After 3 Administrations						
Ideal Case*	581	90.2	522	81.1	486	75.5
Worst Case**	581	90.2	311	48.3	175	27.1

*Assumes that 68.5% of eligible retakers will pass - the same percent as under 1986 cutscores.

**Assumes that 14.0% of failers will pass within one year based on 1989 cutscores and that 6.5% will under 1990 cutscores - the same percentage of 1986 retakers currently meeting new cutscores.

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